(c) whether any study has been made on how railway stations are kept clean and good smelling in other developing countries of the world; and

(d) whether Government propose to take steps to stop this open bottom toilet system, which makes our stations some of the foulest smelling places in the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) For periodic cleaning of coach toilets and removal of garbage etc. from running trains, a process has been developed with suitable mechanization. This has been given the name 'Clean Train Station'. This system is presently working at Ratlam station of Western Railway. As surveys have shown favourable passenger response, it is planned to set up this facility at 16 different stations by March, 2006 and at 50 stations by March, 2010.

Railways have also introduced Controlled Discharge Toilet System in new design LHB (Linke Hofmann Busch) coaches which prevents spillage of waste at major junctions and terminals. These will be gradually extended to other coaches.

Railways also plan to try and introduce Zero Discharge Toilet System in which there will be no discharge on to the track.

For improving cleanlines at railway stations, a number of initiatives have been taken which include emphasis on mechanized cleaning processes, additional dustbins, regular removal of garbage, spraying of insecticides, repairs to drains, introduction of 'Pay & Use' scheme of toilets etc. Moreover, cleanlines drives and surprise checks are also conducted from time to time. Frequent announcements are made to seek the cooperation of the traveling public in keeping the station premises clean.

Scam in refund of fake tickets

2162. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one Railway Officer of Vadodara Division of Western Railway was arrested in respect of scam of refunding the amount for fake railway tickets;

(b) whether the said officer was in jail for about two months and his bail application was once rejected by the Gujarat High Court;

(c) why the said officer is reposted on the same post;

(d) whether the officers who are making enquiries in that scam were transferred by the Railway administration; and

(e) whether further enquiry has been handed over to Railway Vigilance Department and what action has been taken against the concerned officer who was involved in this scam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Vadodara, Western Railway was arrested on 27.2.2005 in respect of scam of refunding the amount for fake railway tickets.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) To comply with the direction of the Hon'ble Court of Judicial Magistrate First Class (Railways) to keep the officer within the boundary of the State, certain administrative changes were necessary because of which he was initially accommodated on the same post on his getting bail. However, he was subsequently transferred to Rajkot and posted as Senior Divisional Operating Manager of Rajkot Division, Western Railway where he joined on 26.5.2005.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir. there is a stay upon the investigation by an order of the Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat at present. The case has not been entrusted to the Railway Vigilance Department.

Sleeper coach workshop in Bihara, Assam

2163. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTCHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sleeper coach workshop is going to be established in Bihara of Cachar District, Assam for which tender have been called for;

(b) whether the work order has been given to the lowest bidder, and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?